



Explorer 2011 Concept Study Guidelines Science

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October 18, 2011



Schedule

- The 11-month Phase A clock will start on **Tuesday, 18 October 2011**
- Concept Study Reports (CSRs) will be due on **Friday, 21 September 2012**
- Jeff Newmark and Wilt Sanders will be the Overall Chairs of the evaluation team.
- Washito Sasamoto (SOMA) will lead the TMC evaluation & coordinate site visits.

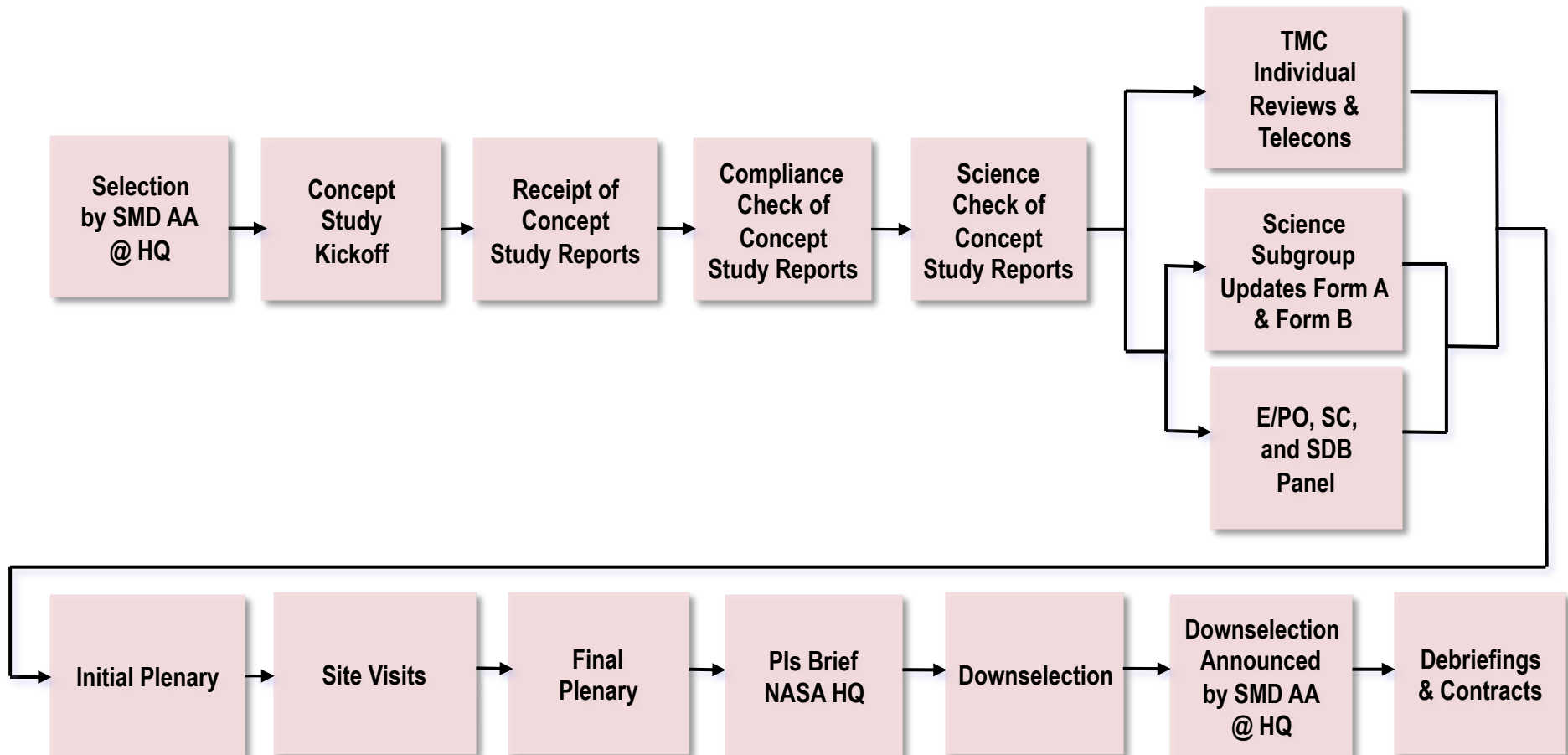


Concept Study Guidelines

- Concept Study Guidelines may be found at the Explorer Program Acquisition Website
 - http://explorers.larc.nasa.gov/EX/ex_Library.html
- Guidelines are based on the “Standard CSR Guidelines” so changes are expected to be minimal



What Follows Selection?





Major Evaluation Criteria

- All three criteria from the AO or PEA will be used:
 - Scientific Merit
 - Science Implementation Merit
 - Feasibility including Cost Risk
- Weighting between criteria will be different as will individual factors.



Scientific Merit Evaluation Criterion

- Step 1 selections were primarily based on *science balanced by feasibility*. Unless the science has changed, the Phase A evaluation *will emphasize implementation*.
 - Unless directed or CSR results demand it, objectives of BSM/TSM should not change.
 - Science section from Step 1 proposal **must** be repeated in the CSR.
 - Any and all changes must be highlighted (change bars)



Science Implementation Evaluation Criterion

- All of the factors defined in Section 7.2.3 of the AO or Section 7.2.2 of the PEA apply to the CSR and will be re-evaluated from the data supplied in the CSR and at the site visit.
 - Site visit is viewed as an update to the CSR
 - Factor additions:
 - Details added to subfactor of Factor B-1
 - Added instrument design subfactor to Factor B-2
 - New Factor B-7: Likelihood of scientific success
 - Renumbered Factor A-3
 - New Factor B-8: Maturity of proposed Level 1 science requirements
 - *E.g.*, Are they quantitative and verifiable?



Feasibility Evaluation Criterion

- See next presentation...



Additional Criteria

- Quality of Plans for Core E/PO Program
- Overall Merit of Student Collaboration (SC), if proposed
- Small Business Subcontracting Plans



Criteria Weighting

- Scientific merit of the investigation: approximately 25%
- Scientific implementation merit and feasibility of the investigation: approximately 20%
- Feasibility of mission implementation, including cost risk: approximately 50%
- Quality of plans for core E/PO, SDB sub-contracting, and for an optional SC, if proposed: approximately 5%



Competition Conditions

- “Blackout” after the Kickoff Meeting. Communications between Study Teams and the various NASA program offices will be focused to ensure fairness
 - Communications after this meeting will be controlled.
 - Technical and expert advice should be obtained directly from identified Points of Contact (POC’s).
 - All programmatic questions, including questions of policy, questions of interpretation, and questions of clarification, should come to HQ/Jeff Newmark
 - But, NASA does not want to restrict these communications
 - If process outlined by Program Office proves onerous, we will reassess it
- Generic versions of questions and answers will be posted as “Questions and Answers” available from the Explorer Program Acquisition website.



QUESTIONS?